

M S M a i l

DATE-TIME 21 November 95 17:33

FROM Reade, Evan G.

CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT Draft President Walesa Memcon [~~CONFIDENTIAL~~]

TO Canty, Mary T.
Crispell, Thomas G.
Dragone, Karen D.
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Gates, Brian K.
Gerstner, Christina L.
Gladbach, Damon J.
Glinski, David L.
Guekel, Kathi A.
Hamilton, Roy A.
Harmon, Joyce A.
Harrison, Lyle M.
Hofmann, Stephan D.
Marmol, Madelyn P.
Martinez, Alejandro
Mauzy, Stefan T.
Miller, Matthew E.
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Reade, Evan G.
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Sigler, Ralph
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Weber, Paul A.
Whitworth, Frank D.
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MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Polish Presidential Election Results

PARTICIPANTS: President Clinton, Polish President Lech Walesa

**DECLASSIFIED
PER E.O. 13526**

2015-0769-M (1.01)
12/1/2017 KBH

LOCATION: President Clinton in Oval Office

INTERPRETER: Mr. Val Chelbowski

NOTETAKERS: Ralph Sigler, Katherine O'Leahy, Evan Reade, Trey Whitworth.

DATE/TIME: November 21, 1995, 1433-1440 EST

President Clinton: Hello, President Walesa?

President Walesa: Yes, hello. This is the President of the Republic of Poland.

President Clinton: Hello President Walesa. Thank you for taking my call. I've been thinking about you and all you've done for Poland and for the cause of freedom. Your country's been transformed and has passed through the toughest phase, and it couldn't have happened without you. I know it's a tough day for you. You came from behind and almost won. I hope you will take some pride in this and not be too discouraged, and that you will look to the future.

President Walesa: It was not a difficult fight. Kwasniewski cheated during the election. I've been trying to prove this, but the question is whether I will be able to. He did not win, he actually lost. This matter is not quite clear yet. We'll see what happens.

President Clinton: Well, whatever happens, I will continue to support what you have worked for, and I hope you will remain in public life and continue to help Poland face the future. I've enjoyed working with you and I have valued the time we spent together. I want to remain in touch with you and your wonderful wife, who I enjoyed having dinner with.

President Walesa: Thank you very much Mr. President. As I told you before, there was always the possibility I would take a five-year rest and then come back and be President again for another ten years. I think the rest will do me good. Of course, I will continue to oversee the reforms and will not allow them to veer off course. My position is actually more convenient now. I will continue to help in the fight and hope we will meet again in the course of history.

President Clinton: I hope so, too. I woke up this morning thinking of Winston Churchill, who won the war but lost the next election. But then he fought back and won again.

President Walesa: But he did not have to face the communists!

President Clinton: But he did come back, and you can, too.

President Walesa: Of course I can! However, when I look at the international situation it is difficult. But I can see your work is getting better and better. I'm sorry I won't be around to support you when you need it. You know you could always count on my support. You won't be able to count on the communists.

President Clinton: Yes, you were always there. We announced a peace agreement for Bosnia today that I know should please you.

President Walesa: But is it going to be feasible to put into effect?

President Clinton: It looks like a good agreement, and they're all there signing it together. I just talked to the three of them on the phone before calling you and I think the key is whether Milosevic can control the Bosnian Serbs or get the worst ones out of the way so they can't interfere.

President Walesa: I think he will not be able to. But of course, we all want peace for that country. But I think more decisive action is needed -- like the carrot and the stick.

President Clinton: We will keep working on it and we hope to succeed. Again, I want to stay in touch and I wish you well, and I hope you will stay in touch with us. You are and always will be a hero for freedom in the U.S., and we will always be grateful for your support in our common endeavors.

President Walesa: Thank you very much Mr. President, and all the best to you.

President Clinton: Good-bye.

President Walesa: Good-bye.